REMARKS

I. Objection to Claim 14

At page 2, item 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner noted an typographical error in the prior amendment to claim 14. Claim 14 has been amended and is presented in this Amendment in accordance with the Examiner's comments.

II. Rejection of Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9, 11, and 14-19 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

At pages 2 – 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9, 11, and 14-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,801,027 to Hann et al ("Hann").

The claimed method and system provide for controlling power to devices that are positioned on a surface without regard to the orthogonal axes of either the devices or the surface. Thus, with the claimed invention, coupling of devices to a surface occurs via contacts that are coupled without regard to the orientation of contacts on the devices with respect to contacts on the surface. In addition, communications occur via the contacts, not hardwire or wireless as taught by Hann. Applicants respectfully submit that Hann does not teach each and every step of the either claimed, or each element of the claimed system.

Hann does not disclose the claimed method

> for controlling the power delivered by a wire free power transfer surface to two or more electronic devices, wherein each of the two or more electronic devices have device contacts arranged with regard to first orthogonal axes, and the power transfer surface includes surface contacts arranged with respect to second orthogonal axes, comprising:
>
> coupling the device contacts of a first device to the surface contacts on the power transfer surface without regard to the first and the second orthogonal axes;

coupling the device contacts of a second device to the surface contacts on the power transfer surface without regard to the first and the second orthogonal axes;

determining a power consumption level of one or more of the electronic devices coupled to the surface; and

increasing the level of power delivered from the surface to the first electronic device coupled to the surface and decreasing the power level delivered from the surface to the second device coupled to the surface, based on the determined power consumption level of the one or more electronic devices coupled to the surface.

Nor does Hann disclose the claimed system

for controlling the power delivered by a wire free power transfer surface to two or more electronic devices, wherein each of the two or more electronic devices have device contacts arranged with regard to first orthogonal axes, and the power transfer surface includes surface contacts arranged with respect to second orthogonal axes, comprising:

a first device having device contacts coupled to the surface contacts on the power transfer surface without regard to the first and the second orthogonal axes;

a second device having device contacts coupled to the surface contacts on the power transfer surface without regard to the first and the second orthogonal axes;

means for determining a power consumption level of two or more electronic devices coupled to the surface; and

means for increasing the power level delivered from the surface to the first device coupled to the surface and means for decreasing the power level delivered from the surface to the second electronic device coupled to the surface, based on the determined power consumption level of the one or more electronic devices.

In view or the amendments to the claims, Applicants respectfully submit that Hann does not teach each and every element of the claims, arranged as recited by the claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of 1, 3-5, 7, 9, 11, and 14-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

III. Rejection of Claims 6, 8, and 12 – 13 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

At pages 6 - 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 6, 8, and 12 – 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Hann and U.S. Patent Publication No.2002/0065062, Levesque. The Examiner asserts

> Consider **claim 6 and as applied to claim** 5, Harm teaches the claimed invention except further comprising monitoring radio frequency patterns of the one or more electronic devices to identify the power consumption level of the one or more electronic devices.
>
> In analogous art, Levesque teaches the claimed invention further comprising monitoring radio frequency patterns of the one or more electronic devices to identify the power consumption level of the one or more electronic devices (e.g. paragraphs 0031 and 0032).
>
> Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teaching of Levesque in Harm for the purpose of identifying the power consumption level.
>
> Consider **claim 8 and as applied to claim 1,** Harm teaches the claimed invention except further comprising the power management system detecting unauthorized or uncertified electronic devices coupled to the surface.
>
> In analogous art, Levesque teaches the claimed invention further comprising the power management system detecting unauthorized or uncertified electronic devices coupled to the surface (i.e., based on a threshold level) (e.g. paragraphs 0022-0024).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teaching of Levesque in Hann for the purpose of identifying the power consumption level.

Consider **claim 12 and as applied to claim 11,** Hann teaches the claimed invention except wherein the power management system further comprises power controlling of a serial port on a semiconductor chip.

In analogous art, Levesque teaches wherein the power management system further comprises power controlling of a serial port on a semiconductor chip (paragraph 0020). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teaching of Levesque in Hann for the purpose of identifying the power consumption level.

Consider **claim 13 and as applied to claim 12,** Hann teaches the claimed invention except further comprising the serial port of the semiconductor chip communicating with the one or more electronic devices for recognition of the one or more electronic devices and for power management.

In analogous art, Levesque teaches the claimed invention further comprising the serial port of the semiconductor chip communicating with the one or more electronic devices for recognition of the one or more electronic devices and for power management (paragraph 0020).

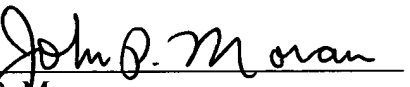
As pointed out above, Applicants respectfully submit that Hann does not teach the claimed invention. And the supplemental teachings of Levesque do overcome the lack of teaching by Hann of the claimed invention discussed above. The amended claims recite a method and a system for increases and decreases the amount of power supplied to a load based on certain dynamic characteristics of the load; wherein the load (devices) are arranged on and

coupled to a surface without regard to the orientation of the contacts on the devices and the surface. Neither Hann nor Levesque, individually or in combination, discloses such a system and method. The combined disclosures of these two references do not suggested a system or method that allows a user to simply place a device to be charged, on a surface without the need for carefully aligning the device or connecting the device to, for example, a coupler on the surface.

Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claims 6, 8, and 12 – 13 patentably distinguish over the combination of Hann and Levesque; and request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 6, 8, and 12 – 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, and pass this case to allowance.

If any additional fee is required in connection with this Response, Applicant requests that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 502353.

Respectfully submitted,



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